

July 21, 1969

Dear Paul,

Thanks for your letter of July 14 and its enclosures. My car just broke down, which is draining time, will drain money, and has prevented the Dallas trip. The latter is quite unfortunate since by the time it came to get set to leave, it became apparent that there is much that I could do there. Also, I got a cordial invitation to visit New Orleans from Jim Garrison, so that I could have done something about getting things of relevance for us from the files.

I agree about trying to diminish friction between critics, which is why I finally got angry at Dave. I did not enter into that fray until his charges about Harold, and eventually me, became outlandishly inflammatory, and even worse, involved other critics. Further than that, it was all done in front of Fred Newcomb, and until I replied to a number of series of charges with data of some sort, it was extremely difficult for me to even communicate with Fred and Marlynn. Having been fairly close with them, I suddenly found myself hit by a barrage of attacks from both them and Dave, with frequent citation of material provided by Dave and so identified by the Newcombs. Besides the fact that it would waste your time, I cannot send Dave's letters to you because he has forbidden it (forbidden my sending copies to anyone). If it would serve any purpose, I would have liked some impartial party out there to have examined the stuff, and thus saved me many 5 page letters (I spared you about 9/10 of it). Right now, however, at least the Newcombs seem to have realized that there are two sides to every story, and often Lifton's version is the farthest from the available evidence. As for Lillian, it appears that Dave misconstrued what she said. One of the major points I tried to make in those arguments was that the critic's grapevine was unreliable and should not be used to help render decisions about people or things.

I am familiar with what Joesten has written on Crafard. He has similar ideas, but for reasons which I don't consider very good ones. I have always assumed that Crafard was the guy who looked like LHO who was at the electrical contractors, but that doesn't make him an Oswald double agent. Enclosed is a memo on Crafard which is a very preliminary memo done by Mrs. Jackie Dolan of my group. The speculations in it are to be taken as no more than that--just ideas. Other items which she will discuss in memos to be done later are the fact that Crafard's wife and children could have been the woman with children who accompanied that man to the furniture mart.

As for Mondale, he continues replying, and continues to get letters from his constituents who often hear me speak. I am pressuring Minnesota Congressmen from as many angles as possible more as an experiment than anything else. Also, I would like to be able to tell their constituents that they have seen the material. Several already have. I am aiming for HHH, who I have reason to believe has some information of importance.

Your remarks on the archives were interesting. I have never gotten a fast reply, until the last one, no matter what I asked for.

I have all the Powell documents--got them several years ago. I have been unable to track him, and so has Dick Sprague, who was after the photos. I had a promise of help on him from someone who knew him, and was Army Intelligence--but that was Jim Murray, and within a week he was shot to death in Alaska. I am still trying to research his death, because, despite everything, I had gotten to like him. I would like the pages on Lawrence, since I don't know whether I have them. Garrison was pushed towards him by the unfriendlies, and Bud considered him as involved in the assassination as of last summer, but when confronted on it, he could not defend this position. The biggest item was that he left a car parked behind the TSBD and picked it up the next day, or something like that.

Well, best wishes. Got to go now. Still dispondent about the cancellation of the Dallas trip. Have a good summer.
cc:Harold

Gary